

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a packet switched network for supplying data packets to receivers (4a–c) belonging to a multicast group, comprising the steps of:

storing tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers;
receiving (S21) data packets from a sender (1);
buffering (S22) out of the data packets multicast data packets the having a destination address of which is a multicast address of a the multicast group;
searching determining the tables based on the multicast address to determine (S23) the addresses of the receivers (4a–c) of the of the multicast group indicated by the multicast address and determining receiver specific the specific parameters of the receivers;
filtering (S24) the multicast data packets in accordance with the receiver-specific specific parameters for each receiver (4a–c) of the multicast group to obtain filtered multicast data packets; and
supplying (S25) the filtered multicast data packets to the determined receiver addresses of the receivers.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 1, wherein the receiver-specific specific parameters indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by the a specific receiver.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 1, wherein the receiver-specific specific parameters indicate a data amount of a certain content in data packets which data amount is not to be received by the a specific receiver.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 2, wherein the certain content is filtered out in during the filtering step (S24).

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 2, wherein the receiver-specific specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

6. (Currently Amended) A method in a packet switched network for supplying data packets to receivers (4a-e) belonging to a multicast group, comprising the steps of:

storing tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers;

receiving (S31) data packets from a sender (1);

buffering out of the data packets (S32) multicast data packets ~~the~~ having a destination address of which is a multicast address of the multicast group;

searching the tables based on the multicast address determining (S33) the to determine addresses of the receivers (4a-e) of the multicast group indicated by the multicast address and determining receiver specific the specific parameters of the receivers;

filtering (S34) the determined addresses in accordance with the receiver specific specific parameters to obtain filtered receiver addresses; and

supplying (S35) the multicast data packets to the filtered receiver addresses.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 6, wherein the determining buffering step (S33) includes the further includes step of:

detecting contents and a data amount of data packets, and wherein the filtering step (S34) includes the further includes step of:

filtering the determined addresses in accordance with the detected results.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 6, wherein the receiver specific specific parameters indicate a certain time at which no data packets are to be received by the a specific receiver.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 8, wherein when the certain time is detected in the determining searching step (S33) the address of the specific receiver is filtered out in during the filtering step (S35).

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 7, wherein the receiver-specific parameters indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by the a specific receiver.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 7, wherein the receiver-specific parameters indicate a certain data amount of data packets which is not to be received by the a specific receiver.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 10, wherein when the certain content is detected in the detecting step the address of the specific receiver is filtered out in during the filtering step (S35).

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 11, wherein when the certain data amount is detected in the detecting step the address of the specific receiver is filtered out in during the filtering step (S35).

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 8, wherein the receiver-specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in a packet-switched network for supplying data packets to receivers (4a-e) belonging to a multicast group, comprising:

a control unit configured to store in advance tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers; and

a routing means (2) unit configured to receive for receiving data packets from a sender (1) and for buffering buffer multicast data packets out of the data packets, the multicast data packets having a the destination address of which is a multicast address of the multicast group; and

wherein the a control unit means (3) communicating is configured to communicate with the routing unit means (2) for determining to determine the addresses of the receivers (4a-e) of the multicast group indicated by the multicast

address and receiver specific the specific parameters of the receivers by searching the stored tables based on the multicast address, for designating designate filters for each receiver of the multicast group (4a-e) in accordance with the receiver specific specific parameters and for supplying to supply the determined addresses and designated filters to the routing unit means (2); and

wherein the routing means (2) unit is configured to filter filters the multicast data packets with the designated filters for each receiver (4a-e) of the multicast group to obtain filtered multicast data packets and supplies to supply the filtered multicast data packets to the determined receiver addresses of the receivers of the multicast group.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 15, wherein the receiver specific specific parameters indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by the a specific receiver.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 15, wherein the receiver specific specific parameters indicate a data amount of a certain content in data packets which data amount is not to be received by the a specific receiver.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 16, wherein the certain content is filtered out by the routing unit means (2).

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 16, wherein the receiver specific specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 15, wherein the control unit means (3) determines the receiver addresses and receiver specific the specific parameters by means of via tables stored in the control unit means.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in a packet switched network for supplying data packets to receivers (4a-e) belonging to a multicast group, comprising:

a control unit configured to store in advance tables of addresses of receivers belonging to a multicast group in a packet-switched network and specific parameters of the receivers; and

a routing unit means (2) configured to receive for receiving data packets from a sender (1) and for buffering buffer multicast data packets out of the data packets, the multicast data packets having a destination address of which is a multicast address of the multicast group; and

wherein the a control unit means (3) is configured to communicate communicating with the routing unit means (2) for to determine determining the addresses of the receivers (4a-e) of the multicast group indicated by the multicast address and receiver specific specific parameters of the receivers by searching the stored tables based on the multicast address, for designating designate filters for each determined receiver address of the multicast group in accordance with the receiver specific specific parameters and for supplying supply the determined addresses and designated filters to the routing unit means (2); and

wherein the routing means (2) unit is configured to filter the addresses of the receivers of the multicast group with the filters for each receiver of the multicast group to obtain filtered the determined receiver addresses, with the designated filters for each receiver (4a-e) of the multicast group and supplies and supply the multicast data packets to the filtered receiver addresses.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 21, wherein the routing unit means (2) detects contents and a data amount of data packets and communicates the results to the control unit means (3) which designates the filters also in accordance with these results.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 21, wherein the receiver specific specific parameters indicate a certain time at which no data packets are to be received by the a specific receiver.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 23, wherein when the certain time is detected by the control unit means (3) the address of the specific receiver is filtered out by the routing unit means (2).

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 22, wherein the ~~receiver-specific~~ specific parameters indicate a certain content of data packets that is not to be received by ~~the~~ a specific receiver.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 22, wherein the ~~receiver-specific~~ specific parameters indicate a certain data amount of data packets which is not to be received by ~~the~~ a specific receiver.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~certain address routing~~ apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 25, wherein when the content is detected by the routing unit means (2) the address of the specific receiver is filtered out by the routing unit means (2).

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~certain address routing~~ apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 26, wherein when the data amount is detected by the routing unit means (2) the address of the specific receiver is filtered out by the routing unit means (2).

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 23, wherein the ~~receiver-specific~~ specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 21, wherein the control unit means (3) determine determines the receiver addresses and ~~receiver-specific~~ specific parameters via ~~by means of~~ tables stored in the control unit means.

31. (Currently Amended) The method ~~according to~~ of claim 3, wherein the certain content is filtered out ~~in~~ during the filtering step (S24).

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 3, wherein the receiver-specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

33. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 10, wherein the receiver-specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

34. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 11, wherein the receiver-specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

35. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 17, wherein the certain content is filtered out by the routing unit means (2).

36. (Currently Amended) The method according to of claim 17, wherein the receiver-specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 25, wherein the receiver-specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to of claim 26, wherein the receiver-specific parameters are dependent on receiver conditions.